

**MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FULL BOARD-SPECIAL MEETING  
AUGUST 1, 2001**

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. on August 1, 2001 at the Macomb County Board of Commissioners Conference Room, Mount Clemens. Chairman Hertel called the meeting to order and the following members were present:

Ralph A. Liberato	District 1
Phillip A. DiMaria	District 3
Jonathan Lafferty	District 4
Joan Flynn	District 6
Sue Rocca	District 7
Diana J. Kolakowski	District 8
Robert Mijac	District 9
Philis DeSaele	District 10
Ed Szczepanski	District 11
Peter J. Lund	District 12
Don Brown	District 13
John C. Hertel	District 14
Nicholyn A. Brandenburg	District 15
Thomas Rombach	District 16
Bobby L. Hill	District 17
Michael C. Sessa	District 18
James M. Perna	District 19
Nancy M. White	District 20
Leonard Haggerty	District 21
Elizabeth Slinde	District 22
Robert M. Sawicki	District 23
Roland R. Fraschetti	District 24
Peggy A. Kennard	District 25

Commissioners Sauger and Olshove were absent.

**AGENDA AND GROUND RULES**

A **MOTION** to adopt the Agenda and the Ground Rules was made by Commissioner Brandenburg, supported by Commissioner Lafferty.

Commissioner Sessa indicated that he is objecting. He feels the agenda should not be limited to noise and traffic.

Commissioner Kolakowski inquired why New Business and the second Public Participation were not on the Agenda.

Chairman Hertel indicated that this is a one-item meeting and that is why New Business is not on the agenda. Without objection, the Chairman placed another Public Participation on the agenda.

**THE AGENDA AND GROUND RULES CARRIED**, with Commissioner Sessa voting **NO**.

Chairman Hertel inquired of the residents of Sterling Heights which three people will be speaking on their behalf.

Bob Movich indicated that the residents would be George Parker, James Dillon and himself.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** *(Limited to three minutes pursuant the adoption of the Ground Rules)*

***Sharon Skoczen***

***Gene Hay***

***John Mocer***

***Don Stewart***

***George Parker***

***Keith Nunnely***

***Ron Skoczen***

***Tracy Saverino***

***Bill Gressel***

***Steve Wojno***

***Brad Wilson, Representative of Clean Water Fund, Non-Profit Organization in Clinton Township.***

***Jim Dillon***

All of the above are residents of Sterling Heights and spoke of their concerns at Freedom Hill -- the environment, noise levels and the traffic problems.

Chairman Hertel indicated his wish to add to the agenda the environmental issues at Freedom Hill. There were **NO** objections. The item was added.

Chairman Hertel (**Verbatim**)

This is a unique meeting, which this board agreed to. I want to express to all of you that the board was actually moved to hold the unique meeting by so many issues raised by so many people. You must understand that the board members are elected not county wide but from various districts. And even though the great majority of them, the overwhelming majority of them do not represent any portion of the community involved, they still, I believe unanimously, voted to hold this meeting. When we agreed to hold this meeting we indicated to you publicly at the last meeting that representatives were going to be invited or appointed to actually have interaction at this meeting. The idea being to try to resolve the problems.

***Chairman Hertel called upon the people who would be making up the panel for discussion to come up front. The following people came forward:***

Sheriff Mark Hackel, Macomb County Sheriff Department  
Hank Riberas, Director of Real Estate, Roncelli Company  
Dennis Bishop, Senior Project Manager, Roncelli Company  
Neil Silver, Environmental Law Attorney, Roncelli Company

George Parker, Sterling Heights resident  
James Dillon, Sterling Heights resident  
Robert Movich, Sterling Heights resident  
Oladipo Oyinsan, District Supervisor, Department of Environmental Quality  
Joe Munem, Sterling Heights Planning Commission Chairman

*The mayor, city manager, council members and the police chief for Sterling Heights were all invited in writing to appear. They did not appear. Mr. Munem volunteered to come forward to represent the City of Sterling Heights.*

The three residents from Sterling Heights opened the discussion portion of the meeting airing their concerns about the noise levels at Freedom Hill.

Hank Riberas from Roncelli Company spoke next. He presented a historical overview on Freedom Hill.

The meeting continued and the issues of noise levels, environmental concerns and traffic problems were all discussed. There was an open discussion between the panel and the Board of Commissioners.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

##### ***Jan Keitzen, Sterling Heights resident***

Indicated she does not appreciate the Board of Commissioners slamming the Sterling Heights City Council for not appearing tonight. Invited all the Commissioners to attend a Sterling Heights City Council meeting.

##### ***Gene Hagg, Sterling Heights resident***

##### ***Joe Ciesinski, Sterling Heights resident***

##### ***Gene Ikorse, Sterling Heights resident***

All voiced their concerns about the problems at Freedom Hill.

##### ***Kevin Cassidy, General Manager, Freedom Hill***

Stated he is proud to be running a world class facility. The facility is safe and people have enjoyed it a great deal. Feels the residents of Macomb County should be very proud of Freedom Hill.

##### ***Tom Bommarito, Shelby Township***

Indicated that about 100,000 tickets to Freedom Hill have been sold so far and according to the Ticket Master numbers, close to 70,000 of them are Macomb County residents.

##### ***Elizabeth Wojno, Sterling Heights***

Requested a copy of the letter that went to the Sterling Heights officials inviting them to the meeting tonight.

**ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Ralph A. Liberato	District 1
Phillip A. DiMaria	District 3
Jonathan Lafferty	District 4
Joan Flynn	District 6
Sue Rocca	District 7
Diana J. Kolakowski	District 8
Robert Mijac	District 9
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Commissioners Sauger and Olshove were absent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kennard, supported by Commissioner Sawicki, and the **MOTION CARRIED.**

Chairman Hertel adjourned the Special Full Board meeting at 11:27 p.m., until the call of the Chairman.

John C. Hertel, Chairman  
William Nixon, Chief Deputy Clerk